# A SECOND ILLINOIS STATION FOR PHACELIA COVILLEI WATSON

By H. A. Gleason

Mr. E. S. G. Titus, field assistant to the Illinois state entomologist, has recently referred to me for determination a plant which proves to be *Phacelia Covillei* Watson. In view of the apparent rarity of the species, a note upon it may be of interest. The original station for this plant was an island in the Potomac River, where it was first collected by F. V. Coville. Although lost sight of for some years, it has again been collected near the place of its discovery. Dr. J. Schneck of Mt. Carmel, Illinois, has reported * a second station in southern Illinois, where it occurs in the bottom-lands of the Wabash River.

The new station for it is at Fall Creek, a small town in western Illinois near Quincy, and about two hundred miles from the first Illinois station at Mt. Carmel. Here it grows along a railroad track in the cleared bottom-lands of the Mississippi River, but about four miles from the river itself. Mr. Titus is of the opinion that the soil is liable to inundation, which, if correct, would correspond with the observations of Dr. Schneck concerning its habitat at Mt. Carmel.

Dr. Schneck has spoken of the similarity of the plant to *Macrocalyx Nyctelea* (L.) Kuntze, and has surmised that it is confused with the *Macrocalyx* by other collectors. The resemblance to the latter in the specimens from Fall Creek is striking, and they were at first considered by Mr. Titus identical with the *Macrocalyx*, which was growing near by. The plants of the *Phacelia*, while somewhat smaller and less succulent, are distinguished by the imbricated corolla-lobes, and the structure of the capsule.

*Phacelia Covillei* was regarded by Dr. Schneck as an austroriparian plant, and the limited evidence at hand concerning its habitat and distribution justifies this conclusion. The station at Fall Creek, while distant from the characteristically austroriparian region about the valleys of the lower Wabash and the lower Ohio, is still not entirely beyond the influence of austro-

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riparian conditions, as is shown by the presence in the flora of the Mississippi and Illinois valleys of numerous southern species which extend north as far as Keokuk and Peoria.

URBANA, ILL.

## SHORTER NOTES

LYCOPODIUM CERNUUM IN GEORGIA.—While walking from Cuthbert to Fort Gaines, Georgia, on October 28, 1902, I was surprised to find that curious tropical club-moss *Lycopodium cernuum* L., growing in springy places along the sides of several railroad cuts southwest of Coleman. It was fairly abundant, and though the specimens were rather small (none over a foot in height), many of them were fruiting. As the occurrence of the plant in this manner was of little or no significance from a phytogeographical standpoint, I sought at once to determine its natural habitat, and many promising-looking localities along the railroad for the next few miles were explored, but without success. So how this species came to adopt such an artificial habitat, so remote from any place where it is known to grow naturally, is still a mystery. This branch of the railroad has been in existence for many years, but the country traversed by it is still sparsely settled.

*Lycopodium cernuum* does not seem to have been previously reported north of latitude 31°, and it is possible that its native range may be confined to still narrower limits.

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A NEW SPECIES OF URERA. — **Urera magna** sp. nov. Woody, the stem 5 cm. in diameter or more, reclining on bushes, unarmed or nearly so: leaves ovate-orbicular, short-pubescent beneath, especially on the veins and veinlets, puberulent, and with some solitary longer hairs above, the petiole 16 cm. long or less, the larger blades 3 dm. long by 2.5 dm. wide, sharply dentate-serrate, the apex rather abruptly acuminate, with a narrow tip about 2 cm. long; base of the blade cordate; primary veins about 7 on each side: cymes numerous, about 8 cm. broad; ultimate pedicels about 2 mm. long: fruit white, oblong-elliptic, 4 mm. long by 2.5 mm. thick, the achene wholly included.